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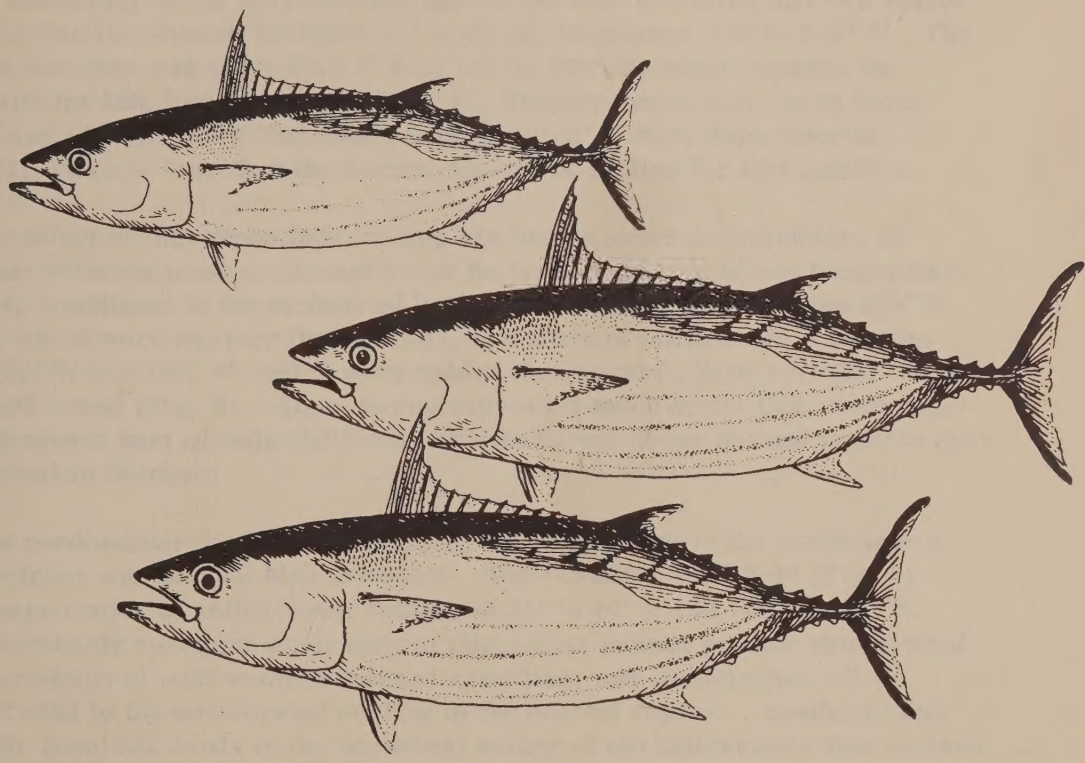
OCTOBER 1971

FISHING INFORMATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



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NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

FISHERY-OCEANOGRAPHY CENTER
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF OCEAN TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS

Northeastern Pacific

Seasonal cooling of sea surface temperature usually picks up momentum in October, although the rate varies from place to place. This year the temperature drop from September to October was greatest in waters off Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, in the northwestern part of the Gulf of Alaska and in a region of the central Pacific between latitudes 35° to 45° N, longitudes 165° to 180° W. The temperature decrease was more than 7° F at 40° N, 175° W, which exceeds the normal amount for this location by nearly 3° F. Temperatures in the area from 45° to 50° N and 140° to 150° W decreased less than 1.5° F from September to October 1971, which is less than the normal amount of cooling for that location.

The effect of this anomalous cooling has been a general diminishing of the anomalous features most prominent in the September pattern of sea temperature. In particular, conditions in the vicinity of latitude 40° N between longitudes 170° W and 180° W, which were warmer than normal, and north of latitude 40° N between longitudes 135° W and 160° W, which were colder than normal, have reverted toward normal in both cases (Fig. 3). Also, temperatures off much of the U.S. west coast and off the northern part of Baja California switched from above normal in September to below normal in October.

The predominant feature of atmospheric conditions over the northeastern Pacific in October was unusual high pressure. The resultant wind field (Fig. 9) shows the mean center of anticyclonic activity at 35° to 40° N and 140° to 145° W. The strong northerly resultant winds east of this center caused greater than normal southward advection of cold water increased upwelling, and evaporation, all of which contributed to the accelerated cooling in the coastal region. Southerly and southwesterly resultant winds in the northwest sector of the anticyclonic flow pattern were responsible for abnormal advection of warm water northward and reduced the normal loss of heat by evaporation, thereby contributing to the below normal cooling in that area.

While the day to day barometric pressure field shifted and changed frequently, a ridge of high pressure, usually extending northeastward from the central oceanic high pressure cell, prevailed over some portion of the Canadian or U.S. coasts throughout the month. This ridge effectively blocked all cyclonic storm systems approaching from the central Pacific from affecting coastal areas south of San Francisco, and only one storm developed to significant intensity in the eastern Gulf of Alaska.

To the west of longitude 170° W, between latitudes 35° and 40° N, the southward components of resultant wind reflect pressure gradients in the western sector of a cyclonic system which attained maturity at 42° N, 163° W on October 6, and in the eastern sectors of high pressure cells which developed west of longitude 180° in the periods October 10-12 and October 24-28. The advection of cold water southward and greater than normal evaporation contributed to the above normal cooling of sea temperatures in this region.

Eastern Tropical Pacific

Sea surface temperatures in the equatorial zone west of longitude 100° W were slightly higher in October 1971 than in the previous month but otherwise there was little change in the general pattern of minimum values just south of the equator, characteristic of a strong upwelling regime (Fig. 5). Temperatures continued to be colder than normal in most of the equatorial zone. South of 5° N surface winds averaged 2 to 4 knots above normal, between 110° and 125° W. To the east of 110° W surface winds were normal or slightly below within 5° of the equator. The only other major region of negative departures was located between longitudes 100° W and 115° W, extending northward from the equator to within a few hundred miles of the coast (Fig. 6). Colder water in this region was associated with slightly higher wind speeds and significantly higher than normal cloud cover. Most of the area in the general vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands has become warmer than normal, a reversal of conditions in September. Temperatures in Central American coastal waters from Mazatlan to Corinto rose to more than 84° F in most areas and continued to be above normal.

Staff, Fishery-Oceanography Group
R. Michael Laurs, Leader

SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE CHARTS, PACIFIC OCEAN

OCTOBER 1971

Acknowledgements

The following organizations and stations contributed data for the October charts:

Hopkins Marine Station, Pacific Grove, California, J. P. Balesteri
Inter-American Geodetic Survey by S. Leiva at Talara, Peru
Kelco Company, San Diego, California
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service, Biological Laboratories
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National Weather Service, San Diego, California
National Ocean Survey, Pacific Marine Center, Seattle, Washington
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Pacific Environment Institute, Fisheries Research Board of Canada
West Vancouver, British Columbia, by H. J. Hollister from observations; D. Smith at Langara Island; D. C. Robinson at Cape St. James Light; Lilly Collins at Kains Island Lightstation; O. A. Edwards at Amphitrite Point Light
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Scripps Institution of Oceanography Research Vessel MELVILLE, THOMAS WASHINGTON
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington; R/V THOMAS THOMPSON
U.S. Naval Weather Service, Fleet Numerical Weather Central, Monterey, California
Fishing Vessels ALEUTIAN, ANTONINA C., AQUARIUS, CHERYL MARIE, CONQUEST, DENISE MARIE, EASTERN PACIFIC, GINA KAREN, INDEPENDENCE, JINITA, LOU JEAN II, MARIETTE, MARY ANTONETT MARY BARBARA, MERMAID, QUEEN MARY, TYPHOON, UNITED STATES, VIVIAN ANN, WENDY

Charts

Figure 1.--Mean sea surface temperature, eastern north Pacific Ocean. Squares show temperatures at weather ship stations. Numerals on shore are temperatures at coastal and lightship stations.

Figure 2.--Mean sea surface temperature chart, western north Pacific Ocean.

Figure 3.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures, eastern north Pacific Ocean from long term charts of H. O. 225. Hatched areas are colder in 1971.

Figure 4.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures, eastern north Pacific Ocean from those of October 1970. Hatched areas are colder in 1971.

Figure 5.--Mean sea surface temperature, eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. Numerals on shore are temperatures at coastal stations.

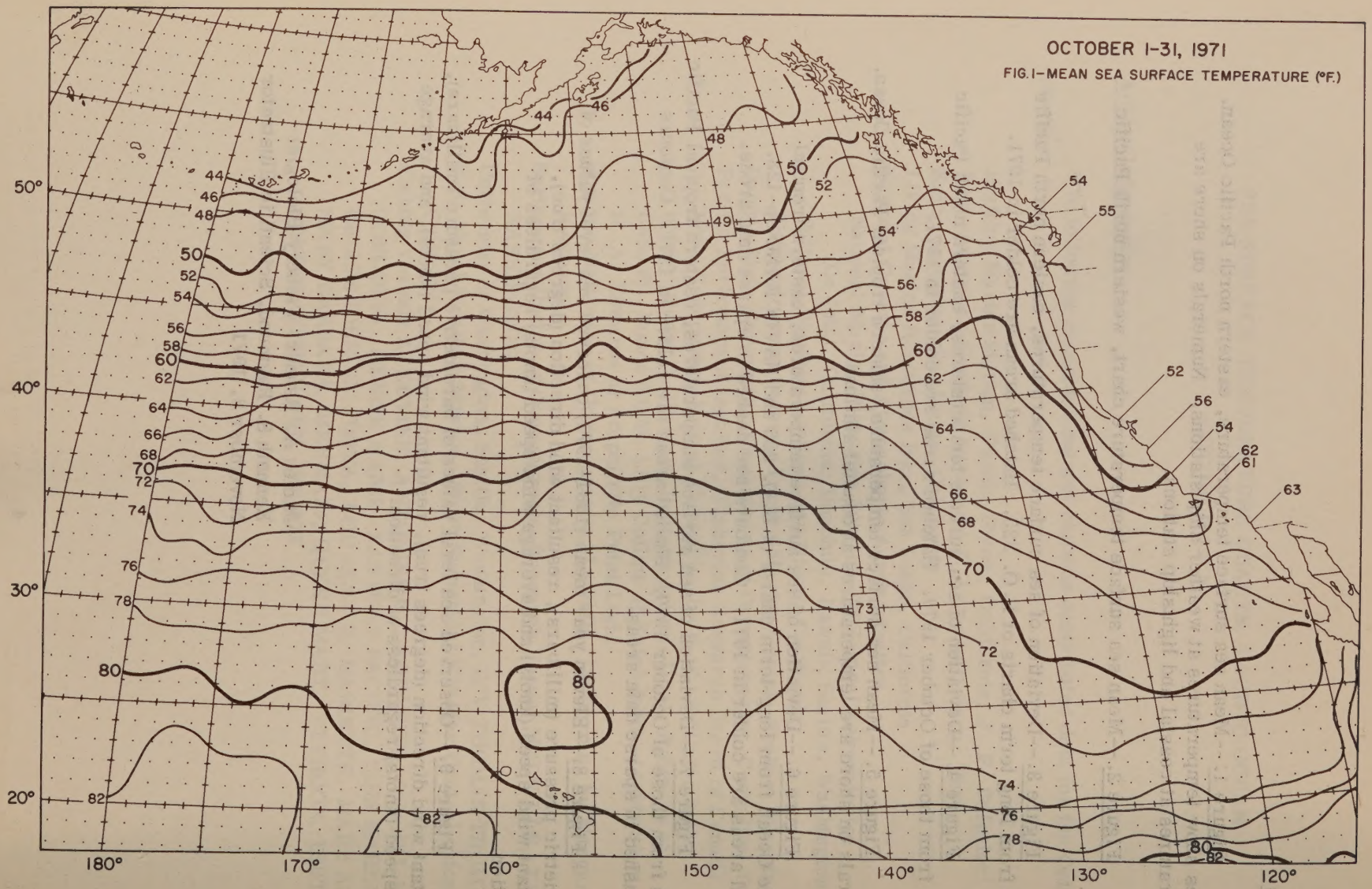
Figure 6.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures, eastern tropical Pacific Ocean from long-term charts of H. O. 225 and NAVOCEANO sp-123. Shaded areas are colder in 1971. Contours are dashed in sparse data areas.

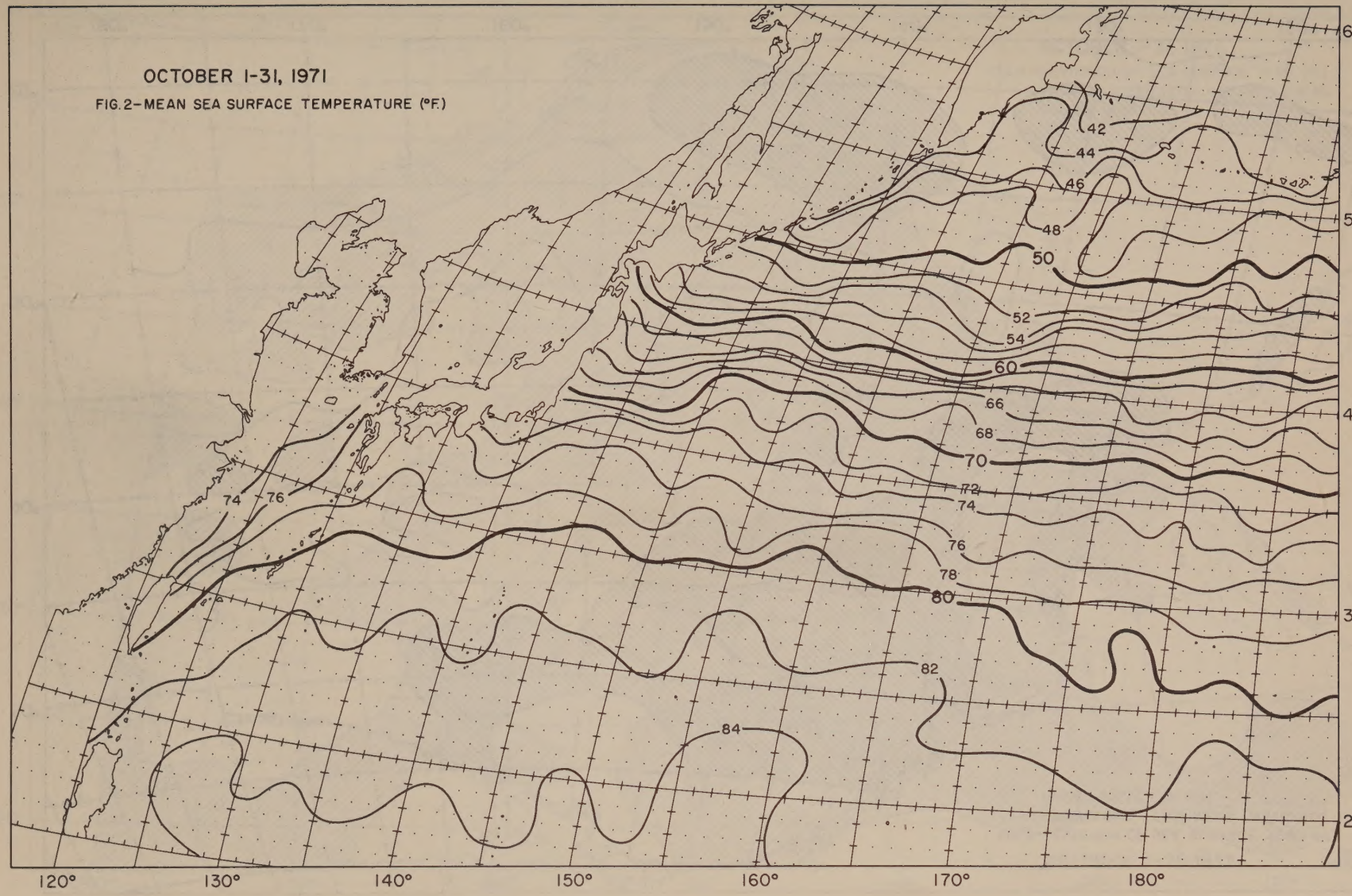
Figure 7.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures, eastern tropical Pacific Ocean from those of October 1970. Shaded areas are colder in 1971. Contours are dashed in sparse data areas.

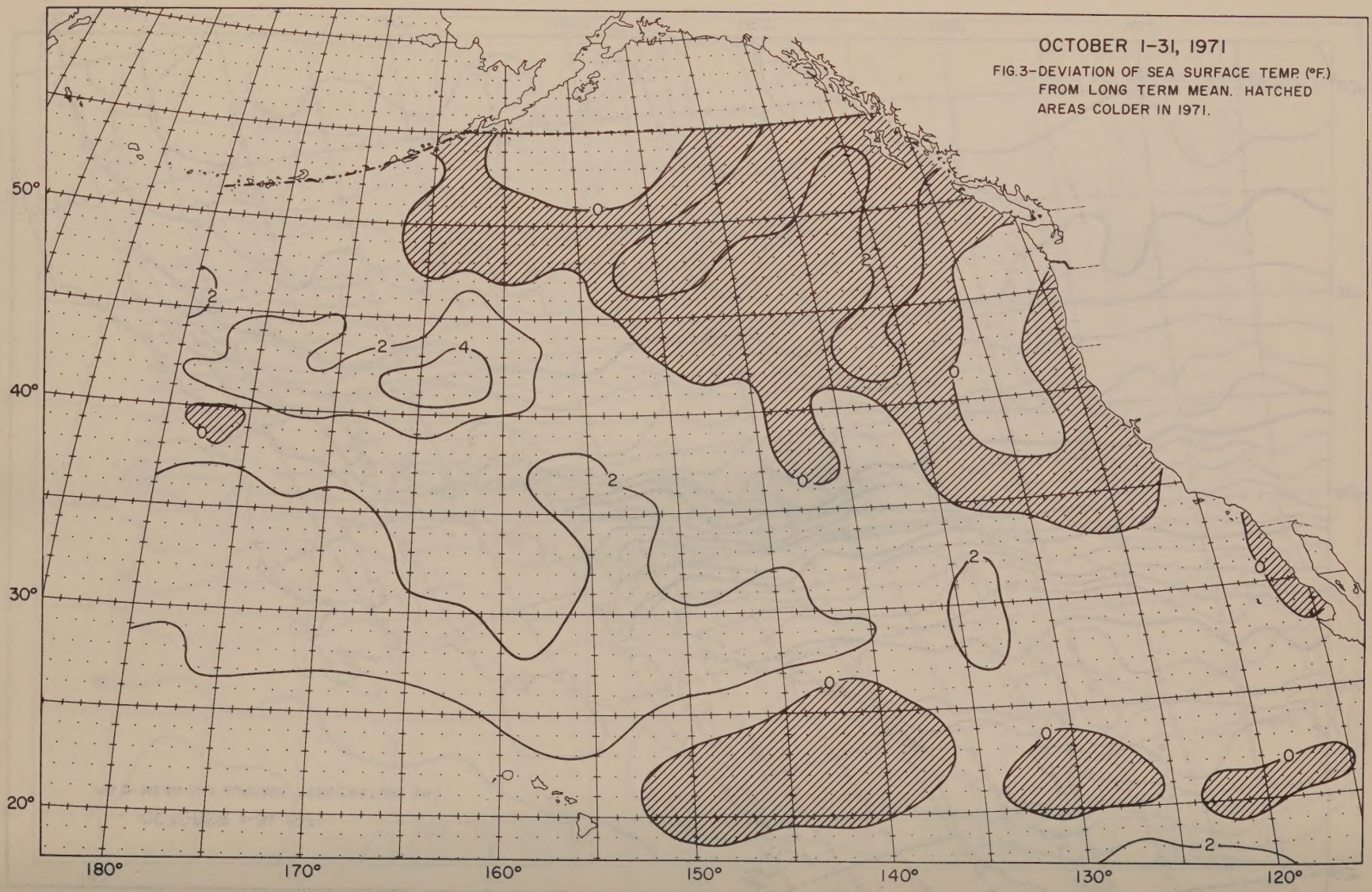
Figure 8.--Eleven year mean (1961-1971) observed sea level values of barometric pressure (millibars), resultant wind direction (degrees true), resultant wind speed (knots) and average wind speed (knots) regardless of direction.

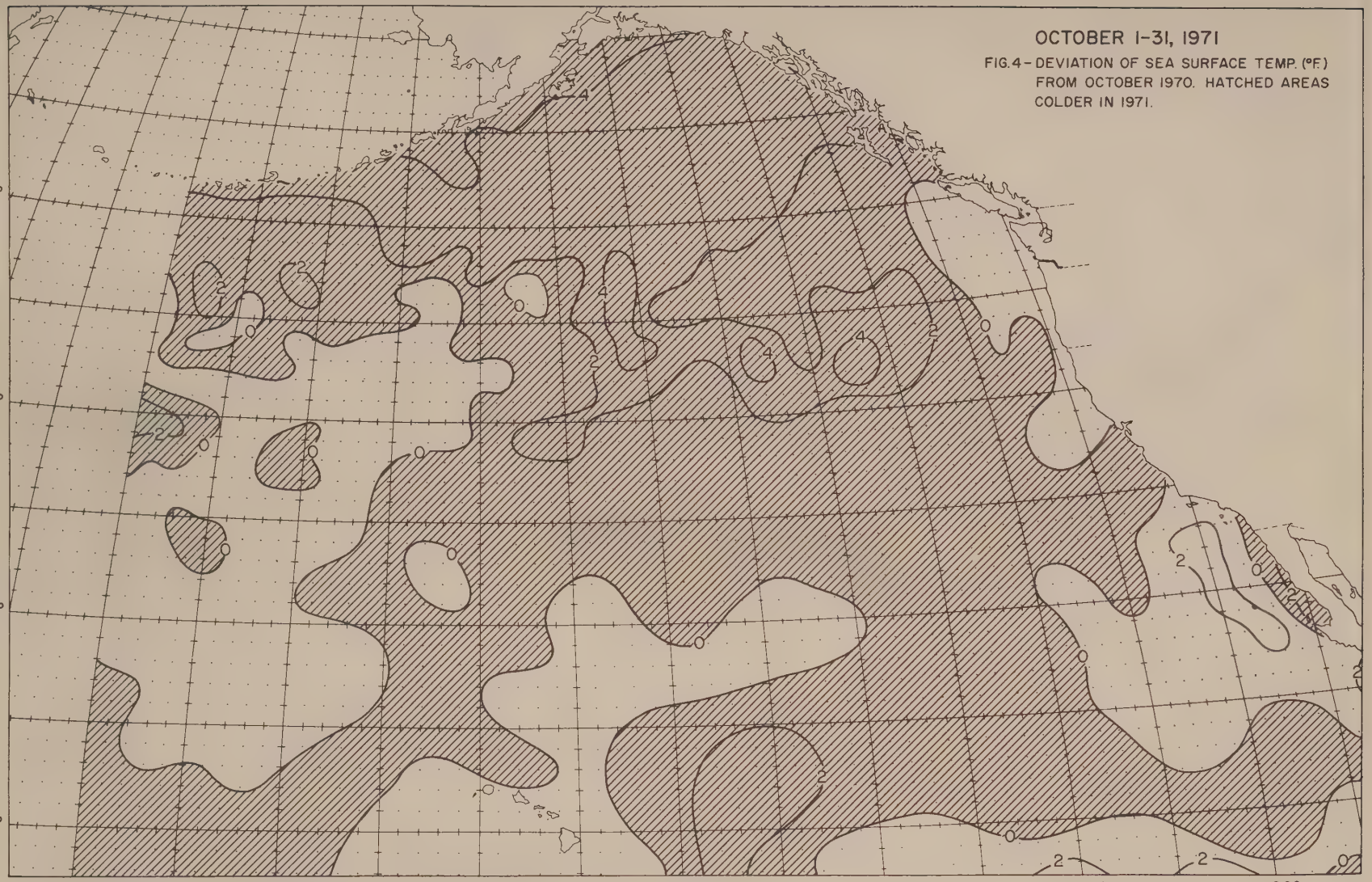
Figure 9.--Observed sea level values of barometric pressure (millibars), resultant wind direction (degrees true), resultant wind speed (knots), and average wind speed (knots) regardless of direction.

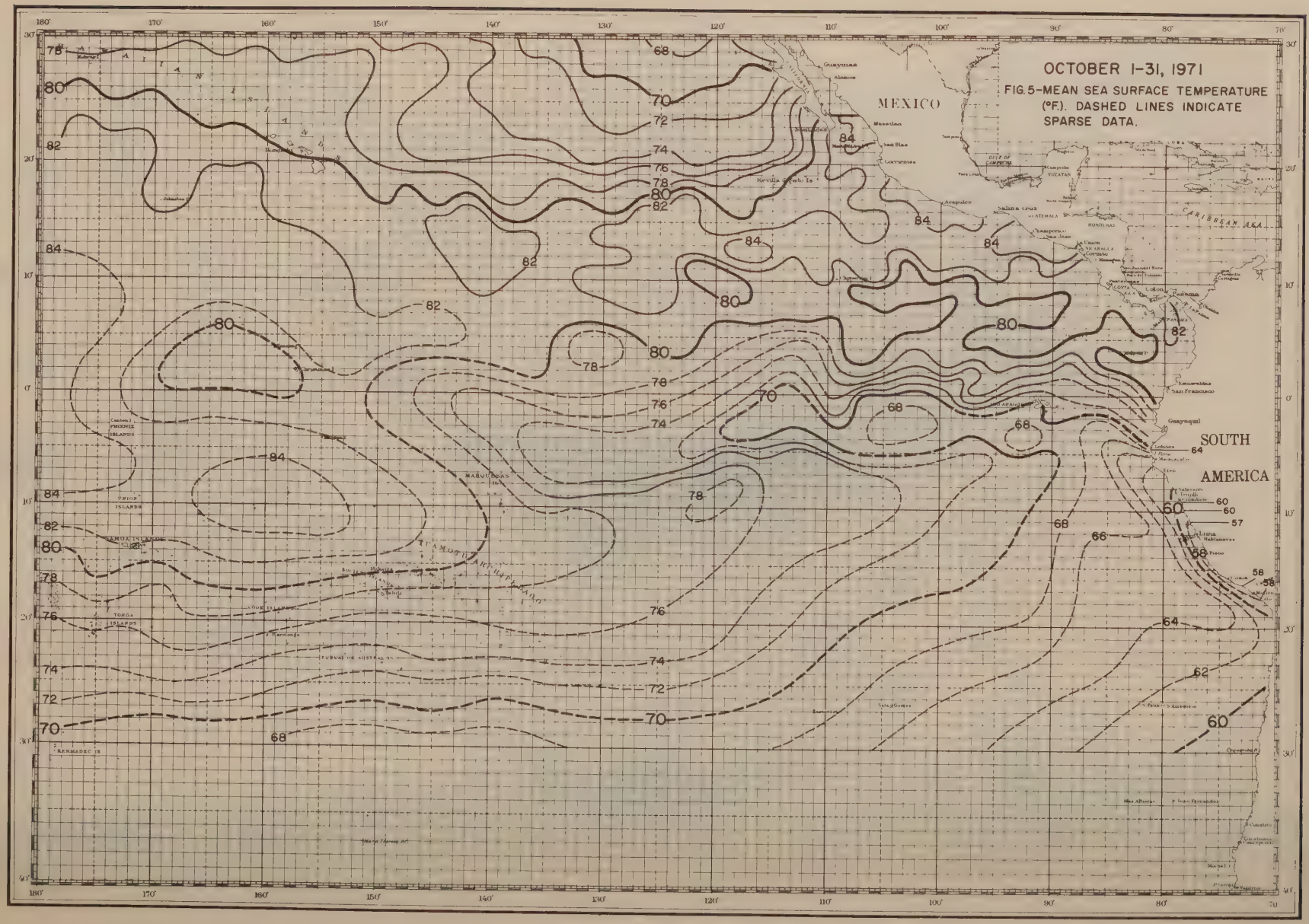
James A. Renner, Fishery Biologist
Kenneth S. Raymond, Scientific Illustrator
November 8, 1971

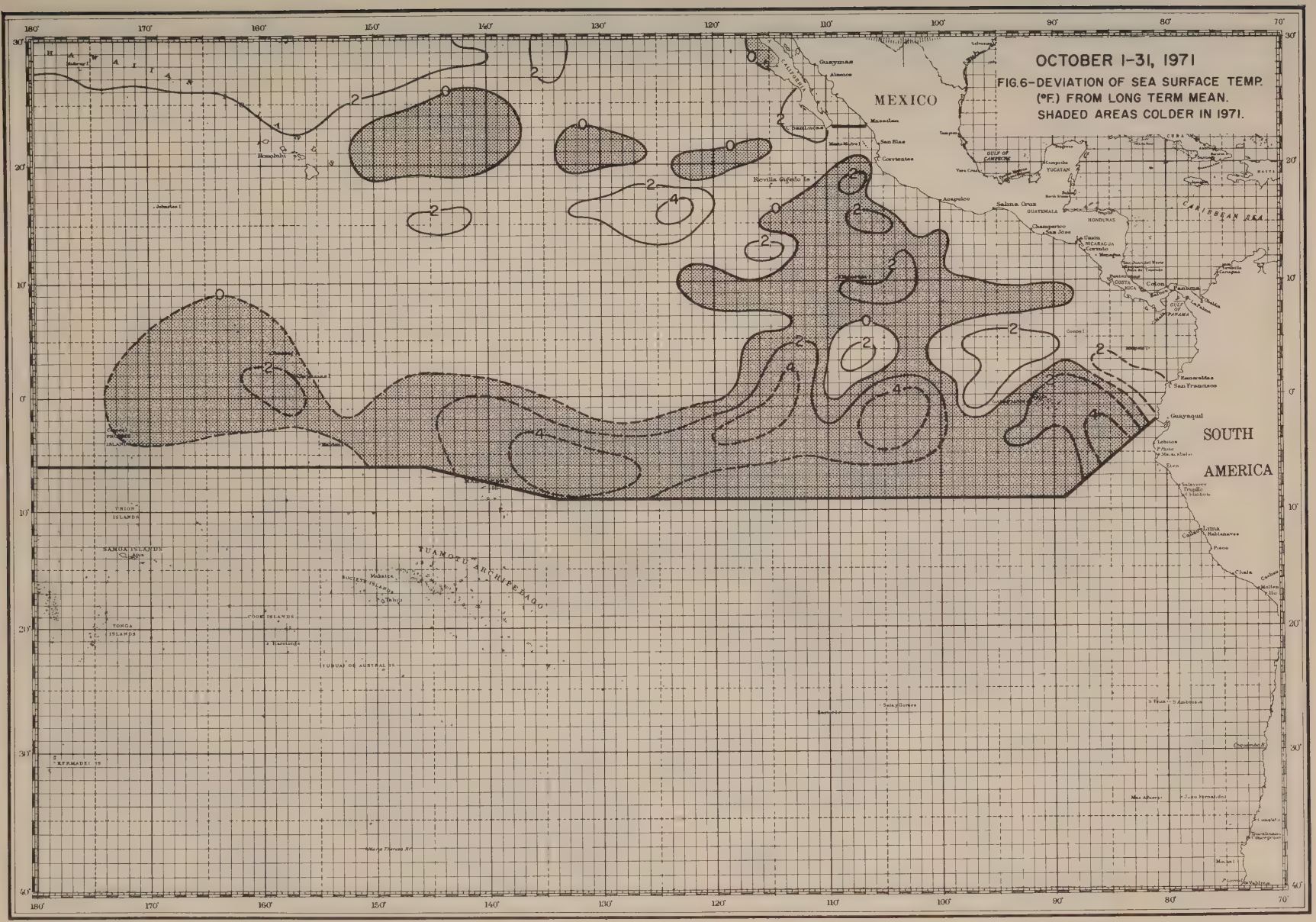

OCTOBER 1-31, 1971
FIG. 1-MEAN SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (°F.)
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°
44
46
48
50
52
54
56
58
60
62
64
66
68
70
72
74
76
78
80
82
49
73
55
61
63

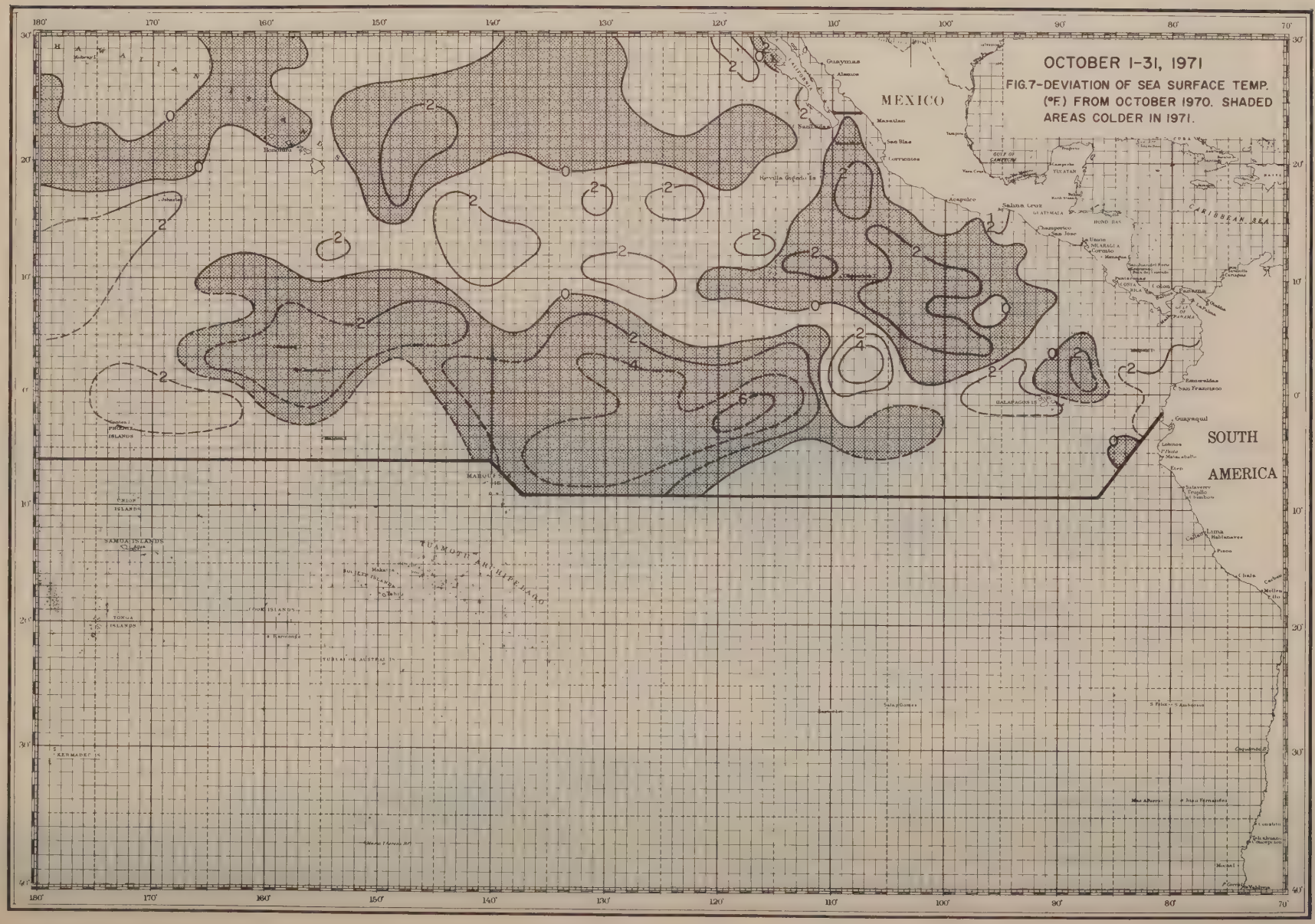

OCTOBER 1-31, 1971
FIG. 2-MEAN SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (°F.)
42
44
46
48
50
52
54
60
66
68
70
72
74
76
78
80
82
84
74
76
60°
50°
40°
30°
20°
120°
130°
140°
150°
160°
170°
180°

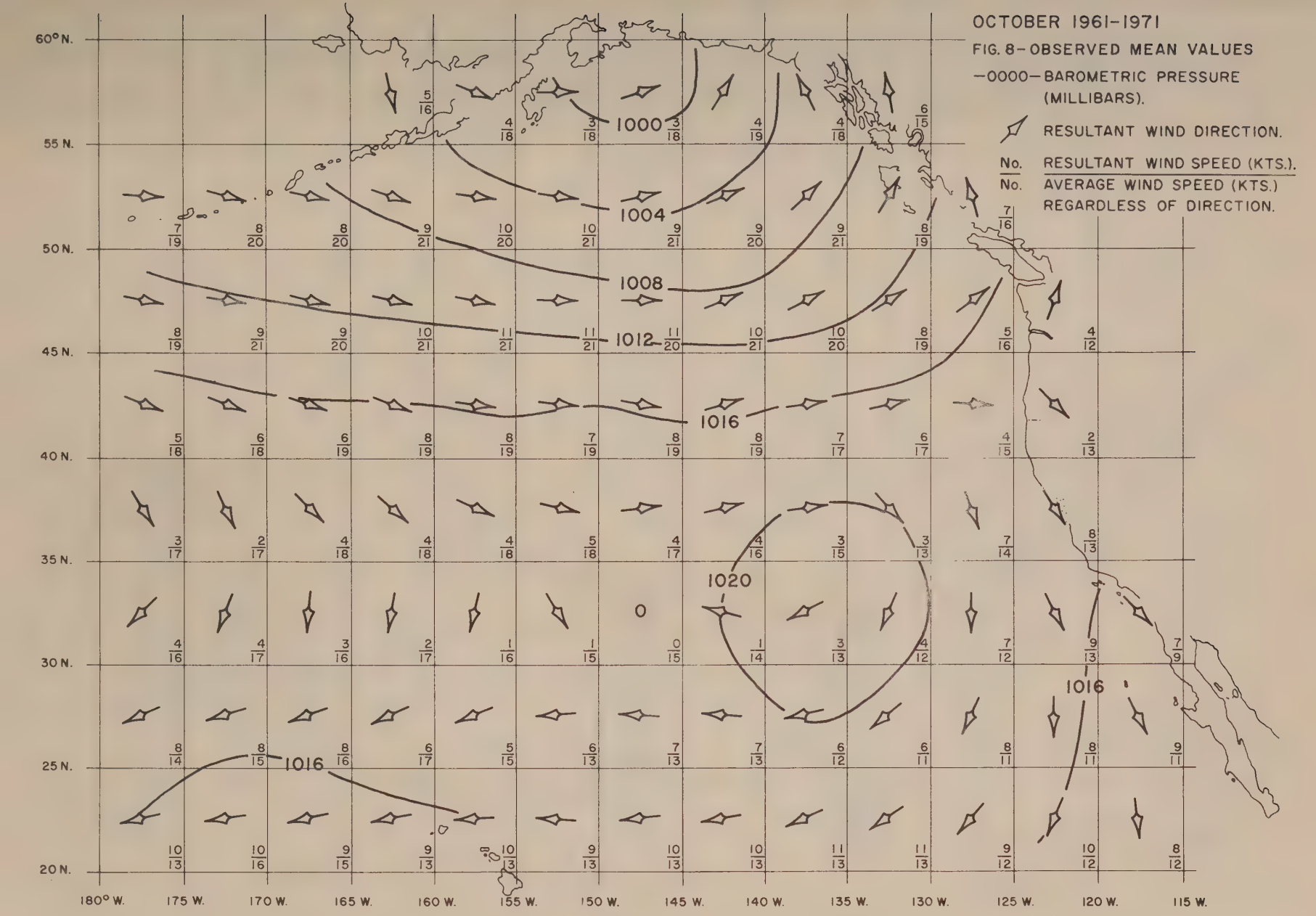

OCTOBER 1-31, 1971
FIG.3-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP.(°F.) FROM LONG TERM MEAN. HATCHED AREAS COLDER IN 1971.
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°
0
2
4

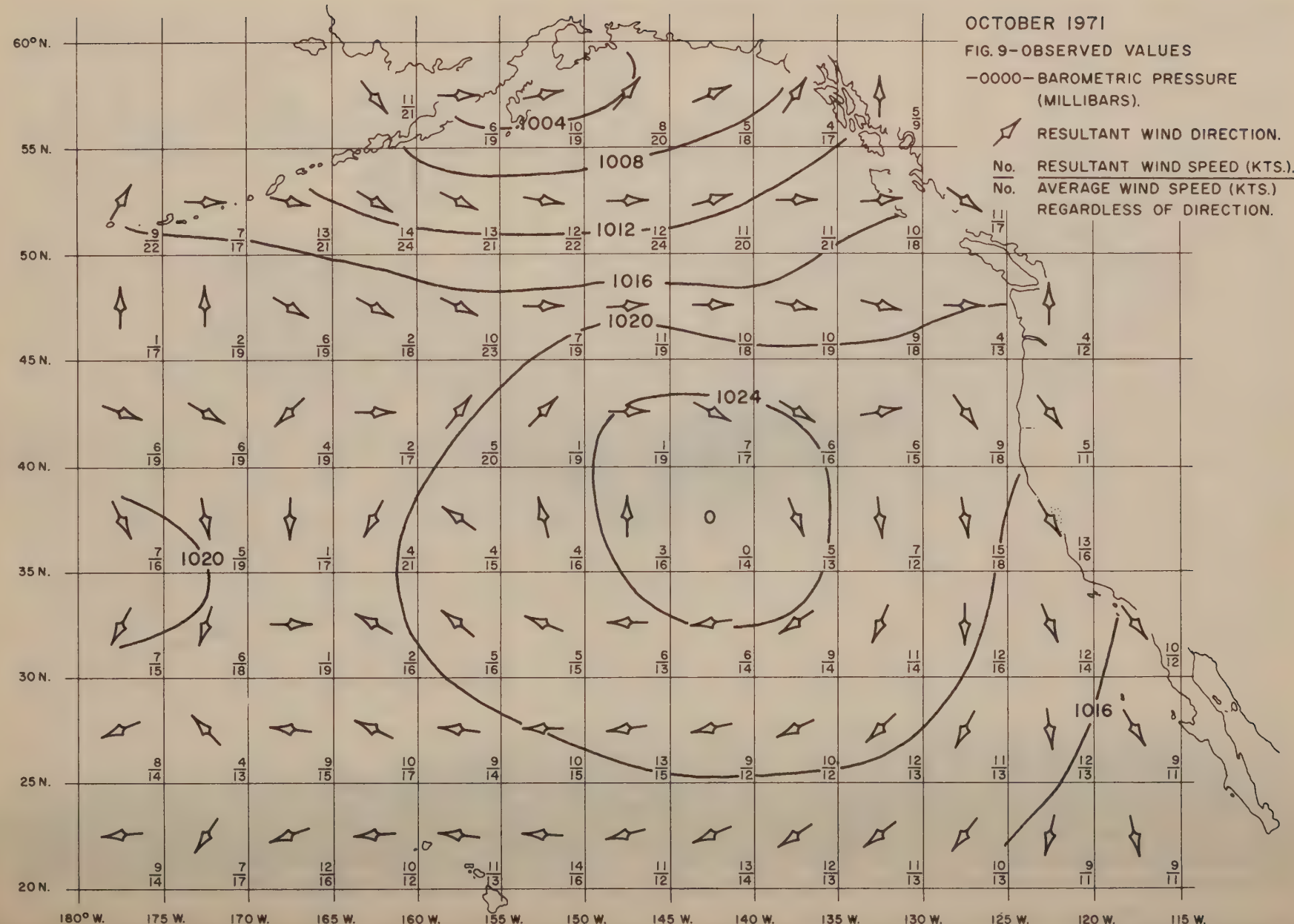

OCTOBER 1-31, 1971
FIG. 4 - DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F.) FROM OCTOBER 1970. HATCHED AREAS COLDER IN 1971.
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°

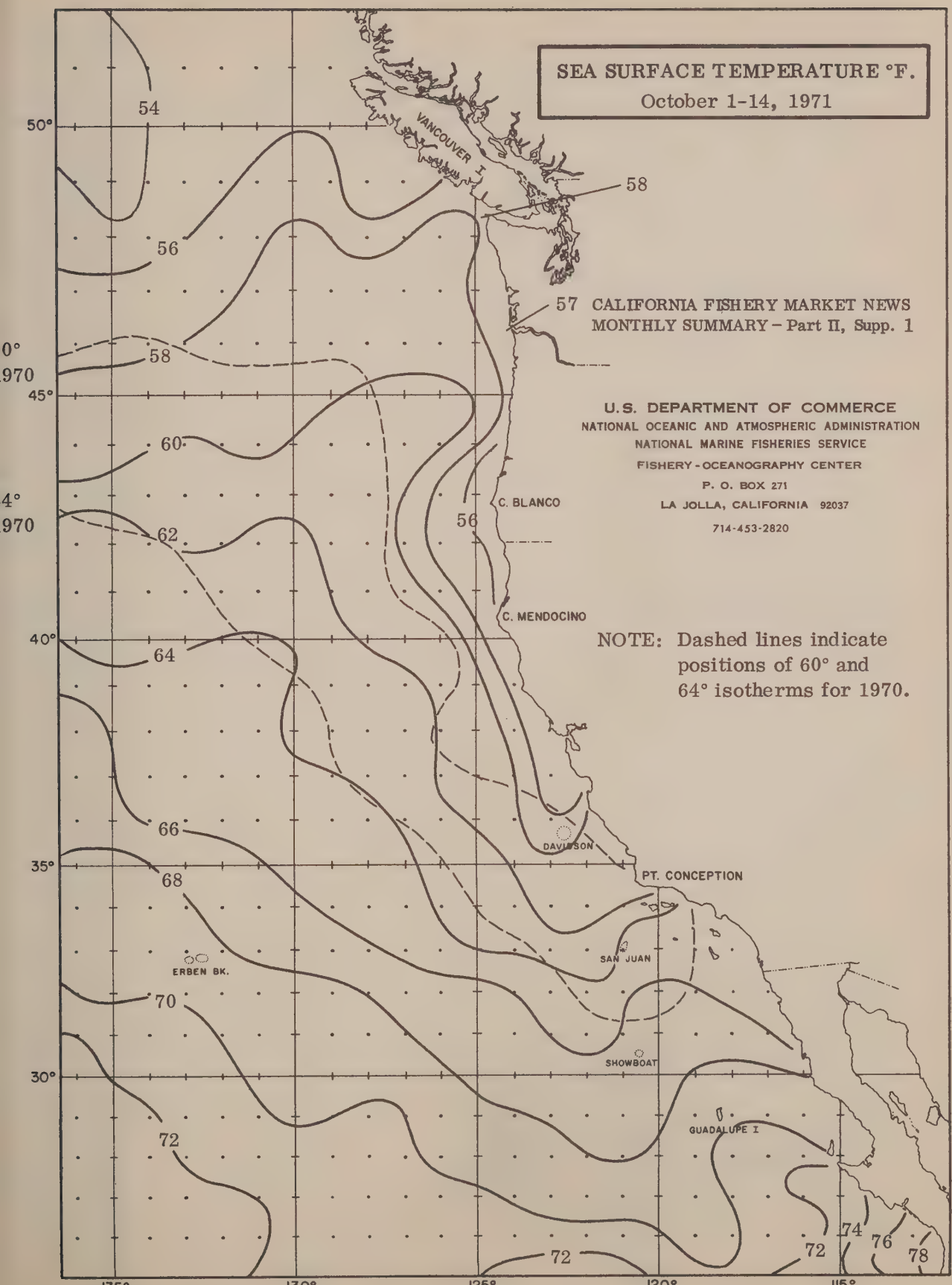

OCTOBER 1-31, 1971
FIG. 5-MEAN SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (°F.). DASHED LINES INDICATE SPARSE DATA.
MEXICO
SOUTH AMERICA
CARIBBEAN SEA
GULF OF CALIFORNIA
YUCATAN
HONDURAS
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
Guayaquil
Lima
San Francisco
Acapulco
Salina Cruz
Manzanillo
Mazatlan
Puerto Vallarta
Cristobal
Balboa
Callao
Valparaiso
Easter Island
Galapagos Is.
Clipperton I.
Revilla Gigedo Is.
Cocos I.
PHOENIX ISLANDS
UNION ISLANDS
SAMOA ISLANDS
TONGA ISLANDS
TUBUAI OR AUSTRAL IS.
MARQUESAS IS.
TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO
KERMADEC IS.
Juan Fernandez
Mas Afuera
Mas a Tierra
Sala y Gomez
Ducie I.
Henderson I.
Oeno I.
Pitcairn I.
Mocha I.
Quiriquina I.
Valdivia
Concepcion
Valparaiso
Coquimbo
Antofagasta
Arica
Iquique
Pisco
Callao
Talara
Paita
Chimbote
Salaverry
Trujillo
Pacasmayo
Eten
Pimentel
Lobitos
Talara
Tumbes
Manta
Esmeraldas
Buenaventura
Tumaco
Malpelo I.
Gorgona I.
Gorgonilla I.
Isla Malpelo
Isla Gorgona
Isla Gorgonilla
Isla Malpelo
Isla Gorgona
Isla Gorgonilla
Isla Malpelo
Isla Gorgona
Isla Gorgonilla

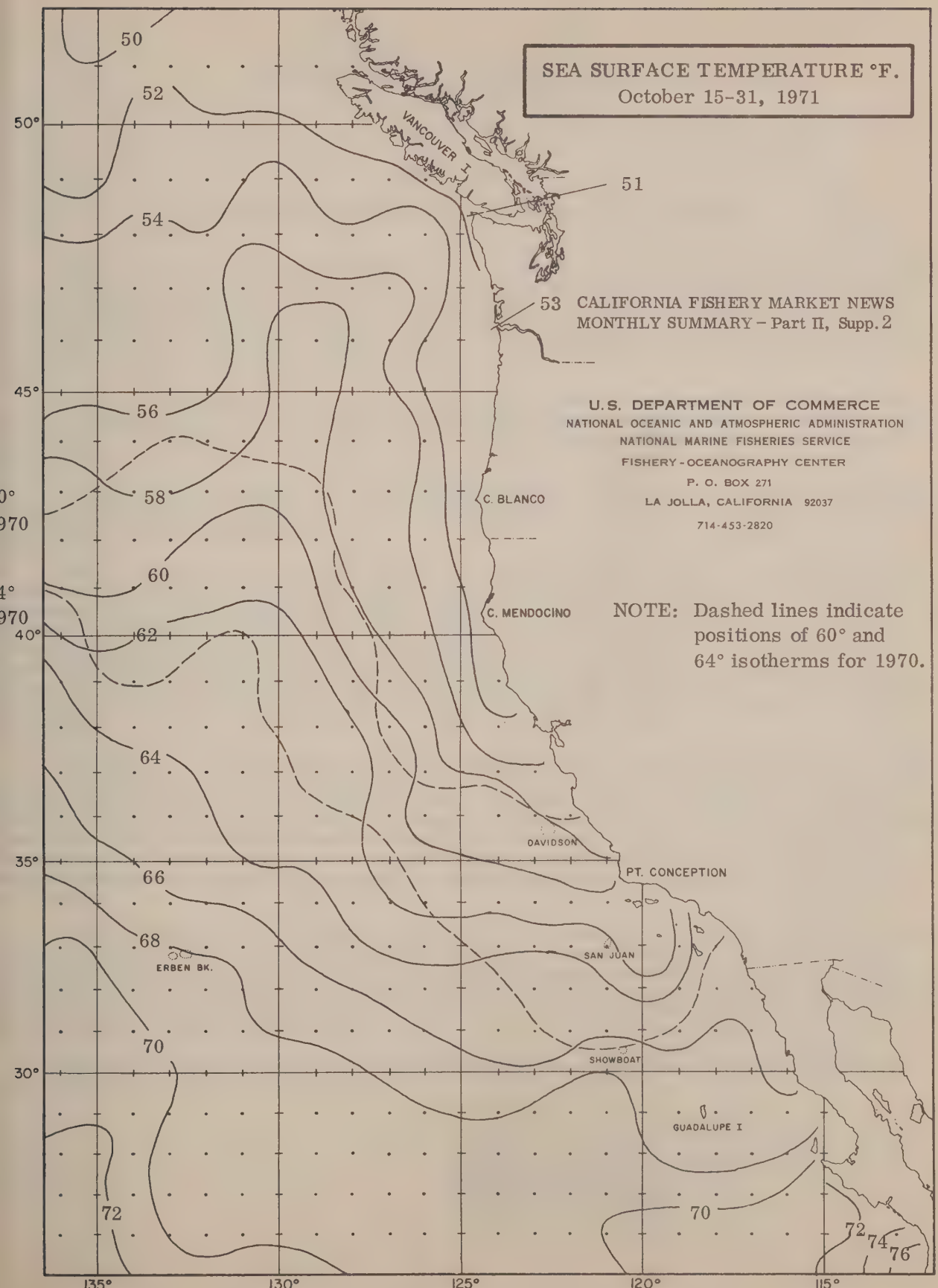

OCTOBER 1-31, 1971
FIG.6-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F.) FROM LONG TERM MEAN.
SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1971.
MEXICO
SOUTH AMERICA
CARIBBEAN SEA
GULF OF CALIFORNIA
GULF OF PANAMA
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS
SAMOA ISLANDS
TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO
COOK ISLANDS
TONGA ISLANDS
Guaymas
Mazatlan
San Blas
Corrientes
Acapulco
Salina Cruz
Champerico
Corinto
Panama
Guayaquil
Salaverry
Callao
Lima
Pisco
Chala
Mollendo
Arica
Iquique
Antofagasta
Coquimbo
Valparaiso
Tahiti
Mahaiti
Honolulu
Johnston I.
Palmyra I.
Christmas I.
Canton I.
Phoenix Islands
Union Islands
Nassau I.
Rarotonga
Easter I.
Juan Fernandez
Mas Afuera
Mas a Tierra
Isla Gorda
Isla Lobos
Isla Chañaral
Isla Pajaros
Isla Santa Maria
Isla Mocha
Isla Guafo
Isla Chiloe
Isla Grande
Isla Gallo
Isla Malpelo
Isla Gorgona
Isla Montpelier
Isla Coiba
Isla Cocos
Isla Caño
Isla Quibo
Isla Jicaron
Isla Tobago
Isla Margarita
Isla Coche
Isla Aves
Isla Roques
Isla Orchila
Isla Los Hermanos
Isla Blanquilla
Isla Tortuga
Isla Aruba
Isla Curaçao
Isla Bonaire
Isla Los Roques
Isla Los Testigos
Isla Los Frailes
Isla Los Monjes
Isla Los Aves


OCTOBER 1-31, 1971
FIG.7-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F) FROM OCTOBER 1970. SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1971.
MEXICO
SOUTH AMERICA
CARIBBEAN SEA
GULF OF CALIFORNIA
GULF OF PANAMA
GALAPAGOS IS.
PHOENIX ISLANDS
LINE ISLANDS
SAMOA ISLANDS
TONGA ISLANDS
TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO
KERMADEC IS.
Guaymas
Mazatlan
San Blas
Acapulco
Salina Cruz
Guayaquil
Lima
Callao
Pisco
Paita
Tumbes
Salaverry
Trujillo
Chimbote
Esmeraldas
San Francisco
Corinto
Managua
Puntarenas
Balboa
Honolulu
Johnston
Nukuhiva
Papeete
Makatea
Rurutu
Raivavae
Rapa
Rarotonga
Penrhyn
Suwarrow
Palmerston
Nassau
Samoa
Apia
Pago Pago
Fanning
Christmas
Canton
Enderbury
Hull
Howland
Baker
Jarvis
Malden
Starbuck
Flint
Vostok
Caroline
Ocean
Tabuaeran
Kiritimati
Tarawa
Makin
Abaiang
Marakei
Butaritari
Nauru
Ocean I.
Funafuti
Nanumea
Nanumanga
Niutao
Nukufetau
Nukulaelae
Vaitupu
Nanumaga
Nui
Nukunonu
Fakaofo
Atafu
Manihiki
Rakahanga
Pukapuka
Suwarrow
Aitutaki
Manuae
Mitiaro
Atiu
Mauke
Rimatara
Rurutu
Tubuai
Raivavae
Rapa
Mangareva
Pitcairn I.
Henderson I.
Ducie I.
Oeno I.
Easter I.
Sala y Gomez
Juan Fernandez
Mas Afuera
Mas a Tierra
Desventuradas Is.
Copiapo
Coquimbo
Valparaiso
Mocha I.
Arauco
Talcahuano
Concepcion
Lebu
Corral
Valdivia
Puerto Montt
Chiloe I.
Guafo I.
Taitao Pen.
Evangelistas
Wellington I.
Tres Montes
Peninsula
Golfo de Penas
Isla Duque de York
Isla Desolacion
Isla Hoste
Isla Navarino
Cabo de Hornos
Isla de los Estados
Isla de los Pajaros
Isla Sala y Gomez
Isla Juan Fernandez
Isla Mas Afuera
Isla Mas a Tierra
Isla Desventuradas
Isla Mocha
Isla Guafo
Isla Wellington
Isla Tres Montes
Isla Duque de York
Isla Desolacion
Isla Hoste
Isla Navarino


OCTOBER 1961-1971
FIG. 8-OBSERVED MEAN VALUES
—0000— BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (MILLIBARS).
RESULTANT WIND DIRECTION.
No. RESULTANT WIND SPEED (KTS.).
No. AVERAGE WIND SPEED (KTS.) REGARDLESS OF DIRECTION.
1000
1004
1008
1012
1016
1020
1016
1016
0
60° N.
55 N.
50 N.
45 N.
40 N.
35 N.
30 N.
25 N.
20 N.
180° W.
175 W.
170 W.
165 W.
160 W.
155 W.
150 W.
145 W.
140 W.
135 W.
130 W.
125 W.
120 W.
115 W.


OCTOBER 1971
FIG. 9-OBSERVED VALUES
-0000- BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (MILLIBARS).
RESULTANT WIND DIRECTION.
No. RESULTANT WIND SPEED (KTS.).
No. AVERAGE WIND SPEED (KTS.) REGARDLESS OF DIRECTION.
1004
1008
1012
1016
1020
1024
1020
1016
60° N.
55 N.
50 N.
45 N.
40 N.
35 N.
30 N.
25 N.
20 N.
180° W.
175 W.
170 W.
165 W.
160 W.
155 W.
150 W.
145 W.
140 W.
135 W.
130 W.
125 W.
120 W.
115 W.


SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE °F.
October 1-14, 1971
54
56
58
57
60
62
64
66
68
70
72
74
76
78
VANCOUVER I.
C. BLANCO
C. MENDOCINO
DAVIDSON
PT. CONCEPTION
SAN JUAN
SHOWBOAT
GUADALUPE I
ERBEN BK.
50°
45°
40°
35°
30°
135°
130°
125°
120°
115°
CALIFORNIA FISHERY MARKET NEWS
MONTHLY SUMMARY – Part II, Supp. 1
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
FISHERY-OCEANOGRAPHY CENTER
P. O. BOX 271
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92037
714-453-2820
NOTE: Dashed lines indicate positions of 60° and 64° isotherms for 1970.



CALIFORNIA FISHERY MARKET NEWS
MONTHLY SUMMARY – Part II, Supp. 2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
FISHERY-OCEANOGRAPHY CENTER
P. O. BOX 271
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92037
714-453-2820

NOTE: Dashed lines indicate positions of 60° and 64° isotherms for 1970.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Fisheries Center
La Jolla, California 92037

BULLETIN NO. 71-8

ALBACORE FISHERY REMAINS SPOTTY WITH LOW CATCHES REPORTED

Three centers of albacore fishing developed during the first 2 weeks in October, with boats reporting poor or inconsistent scores throughout the entire period in each area. Most jig boats continued to work outside of 100 miles from Point Arguello to Monterey Bay; however, many fishing vessels remained in port because of rough seas and poor fishing. High scores were about 40-100 fish per boat except for October 5 when one boat had 140 fish near Davidson Seamount and others reported fair scores. A few jig boats were also working near San Juan Seamount and 35 miles off Point Arena, but fishing was slow.

Another area of fishing was about 100-125 miles offshore between Newport, Oregon and the Columbia River. Jig boats were fishing in 58°-59° F waters on 25-pound fish during the first 5 days of October, with scores averaging less than 50 fish per day. Catches dropped even lower after October 5. A few bait boats were also fishing here, but the albacore were not taking bait.

The best catches for the first 2 weeks of October were taken from 170-180 miles west of Vancouver Island and 150 miles off Cape Flattery. Although only one score of more than 200 fish was reported on October 5, fishing appeared to be fair to good for most of the 2 week period.

The four albacore jig boats chartered by the American Fishermen's Research Foundation (AFRF) left San Diego on October 4 to start fishing south of San Clemente Island, but two of the boats returned to San Diego on the 5th because of equipment problems. All four boats were again trolling on the 7th and since then have moved over Cortes Bank, San Juan Seamount and Rodriguez Dome to about 120-200 miles offshore between Point Arguello and Cape San Martin. The boats worked in 61°-67° F waters except for 1 day when one boat was fishing in 58° F water off Morro Bay. The first fish was caught east of San Juan Seamount and good strikes on 28-30 pound fish were reported near Rodriguez Dome on October 9. One boat had 63 fish north of this dome on the 10th. Since then fishing by the four boats has been slow off Point Arguello to Cape San Martin on fish averaging 8 pounds. No large catches have been made and no large concentrations of albacore have been seen.

Frequent periods of strong northwesterly winds off central and southern California and Baja California have caused sea surface temperatures to cool 2°-4° F above the normal rate from 25°-38° N and from the coastlines out to about 400 miles offshore. Consequently, temperatures that were 2°-4° F above normal during the last half of September have returned to their normal values or are 1°-2° F below normal, particularly in an area from 50-150 miles southwest of Monterey Bay. Sea surface temperatures averaged above normal from 38°-50° N and from the coast out to about 150 miles offshore. These anomalies are most likely due to less frequent periods of north-northwesterly winds between Cape Blanco and Point Arena and more frequent west-southwesterly winds between Cape Flattery and Cape Blanco than occurred during the last 2 weeks of September.

The Extended Forecast Division of the National Weather Service expects that the strong northwesterly winds offshore northern and central California will persist throughout the last 2 weeks in October. These winds are the result of tight pressure gradients caused by strong high pressure offshore and a low pressure trough extending over the Pacific Southwest. This pressure distribution is expected to be a prominent feature of the average weather pattern for the last half of October. In addition, the high pressure ridge that has kept most frontal zones from affecting the Pacific Northwest and California is expected to persist through the rest of October.

Fishing conditions are expected to remain poor during the next 2 weeks due to the expected strong winds and rough seas and no evidence of any major concentrations of fish.

October 14, 1971

Staff, Fishery-Oceanography Group
R. Michael Laurs, Leader

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Fisheries Center
La Jolla, California 92037

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Three centers of albacore fishing developed during the first 2 weeks in October, with boats reporting poor or improvement across throughout the entire period in each area. Most fishing boats continued to work outside of 100 miles from Point Arguello to Monterey Bay however, many fishing vessels remained in port because of rough seas and poor fishing. High scores were about 40-100 fish per boat except for one boat on 5 when one boat had 150 fish near Davidson Seamount and others reported fair scores. A few jig boats were also working near San Juan Seamount and 35 miles off Point Arena, but fishing was slow.

Another area of fishing was about 100-125 miles offshore between Newport, Oregon and the Columbia River. Big boats were fishing in 58°-59° F waters on 25-pound jigs during the first 5 days of October, with scores averaging less than 50 fish per day. October dropped even lower after October 5. A few bait boats were also fishing here, but the albacore were not taking bait.

The best catches for the first 2 weeks of October were taken from 170-180 miles west of Hueneme Island and 100 miles off Cape Flattery. Although only one score of more than 200 fish was reported on October 5, fishing appeared to be fairly to good for most of the 2 week period.

The four albacore jig boats chartered by the American Fisheries Research Foundation (AFRF) left San Diego on October 4 to start fishing south of San Clemente Island, but two of the boats returned to San Diego on the 5th because of equipment problems. All four boats were again trolling on the 7th and since then have moved over Cortes Bank, San Juan Seamount and Rodriguez Dome to about 120-200 miles offshore between Point Arguello and Cape San Martin. The boats worked in 61°-67° F waters except for 1 day when one boat was fishing in 65° F water off Morro Bay. The first fish was caught east of San Juan Seamount and good strikes of 25-30 pound fish were reported near Rodriguez Dome on October 8. One boat had 83 fish north of this dome on the 10th. Since then fishing by the four boats has been slow off Point Arguello to Cape San Martin on fish averaging 8 pounds. No large catches have been made and no large concentrations of albacore have been seen.

Frequent periods of strong northwesterly winds off central and southern California and high California have caused sea surface temperatures to cool 2°-4° F above the normal rise from 59°-59° N and from the coastline out to about 100 miles offshore. Consequently, temperatures that were 2°-4° F above normal during the last half of September have returned to their normal values or are 1°-2° F below normal, particularly in an area from 80-150 miles southwest of Monterey Bay. Sea surface temperatures averages above normal from 58°-60° N and from the coast out to about 150 miles offshore. These anomalies are most likely due to less frequent periods of north-northwesterly winds between Cape Blanco and Point Arena and more frequent west-southwesterly winds between Cape Flattery and Cape Blanco than occurred during the last 2 weeks of September.

The Extended Forecast Division of the National Weather Service expects that the strong northwesterly winds offshore northern and central California will persist throughout the last 2 weeks in October. These winds are the result of high pressure predicted by strong high pressure offshore and a low pressure trough extending over the Pacific Southwest. This pressure distribution is expected to be a prominent feature of the average weather pattern for the last half of October. In addition, the high pressure ridge that has kept most frontal zones from affecting the Pacific Northwest and California is expected to persist through the rest of October.

Fishing conditions are expected to remain poor during the next 2 weeks due to the expected strong winds and rough seas and no evidence of any major concentrations of fish.

October 14, 1971

Staff, Fishery-Oceanography Group
R. Michael Laurs, Leader

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Fisheries Center
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BULLETIN NO. 71-9

ALBACORE SEASON NEARS END

During the last 2 weeks of October the albacore fishery was concentrated off Central California, primarily near the Monterey Seavalley and 150-170 miles west of Morro Bay. However, fishing was spotty and inconsistent. Top scores for both bait and jig boats were from 125-500 fish a day from October 15-19, but good scores were recorded by only a few boats. On the 20th winds increased and most of the boats left the fishing grounds. Fishing remained spotty with many low scores until the end of the month.

The four albacore jig boats chartered by the American Fishermen's Research Foundation continued to scout and tag albacore during the past 2 weeks. The boats generally fished in 55°-65° waters working from 60 miles west of Point Conception northward to 100-170 miles southwest of San Francisco and southward to the Fieberling Guyot area with little success. Only from October 19-25 were fair to good catches recorded. One boat had fair scores of 14-16 pound fish on October 19 and 20, 160 miles west of Point Arguello and all boats had fair to good scores on 7-8 pound fish from October 21-25 about 170-180 miles west of San Simeon. The purpose for remaining off San Simeon for 5 days was to tag as many fish as possible. To date about 860 fish have been tagged. The four boats are scheduled to return to San Diego on November 4.

The Extended Forecast Division of the National Weather Service expects that the upper level trough over the Pacific Southwest will persist and be a prominent feature of the average weather pattern for November; in addition, surface pressures over the eastern North Pacific are expected to average above normal for the month. These conditions should result in frequent periods of strong northwesterly winds and rough seas in waters offshore Northern and Central California. Pressures offshore the Pacific Northwest are also expected to average above normal for November with the result that most intense low pressure systems that develop in the Gulf of Alaska will move into eastern Alaska and western Canada.

Fishing effort and average scores have decreased off Central California, but the fishery will probably remain here until the season ends.

Albacore landings from Washington, Oregon and California have been estimated at 24,500 tons for this season. This is about 2,200 tons less than last year at this time. Landings in British Columbia as of October 9 were better than 1,500 tons.

This is the final bulletin of a series of nine albacore advisories published during this albacore season. A summary of the season will be included in "Fishing Information" at a later date.

The National Marine Fisheries Service albacore advisory program is intended to assist the albacore fishing industry by providing information on the environment which the fishermen may use in making decisions regarding fishing strategy. We welcome comments concerning our 15-day sea surface temperature charts, fish bulletins, and daily albacore fishing information broadcast which is transmitted over marine radio bands, or general comments which may assist in the improvement of the program. The NMFS albacore advisory program involves the cooperation of many people and groups. We wish to thank all those involved for their excellent support: cooperating fishermen, fish buyers, canneries, Western Fishboat Owners Association, Navy Fleet Numerical Weather Central (Monterey, California), Extended Forecast Division of the National Weather Service, Oregon Fish Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, KMY Tiburon, KRED Eureka, KYNG Coos Bay, KMX Astoria, WWD and many others.

November 1, 1971

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